

88
C17 ~~21~~ 23. (New) The distal protection device in accordance with claim ~~22~~²¹, wherein the filter includes a plurality of openings for fluid flow therethrough.

~~23~~³ 24. (New) The distal protection device in accordance with claim ~~22~~²¹, further comprising a tapered frame coupled to the filter.

~~24~~⁴ 25. (New) The distal protection device in accordance with claim ~~24~~^{23 3}, wherein the frame includes a mouth adapted to operate between an expanded profile and a collapsible profile.

~~25~~⁵ 26. (New) The distal protection device in accordance with claim ~~25~~^{24 4}, further comprising a rib having a first end and a second end, wherein the first end is coupled to the guidewire and the second end is coupled to the mouth.

~~26~~⁶ 27. (New) The distal protection device in accordance with claim ~~25~~^{24 4}, wherein the mouth is biased to be in the expanded profile.

~~27~~⁷ 28. (New) The distal protection device in accordance with claim ~~22~~²¹, wherein the docking member is tapered.

~~28~~⁸ 29. (New) The distal protection device in accordance with claim ~~22~~²¹, wherein the docking member is rigidly coupled to the guidewire.

~~9~~ ~~30~~ 30. (New) The distal protection device in accordance with claim ~~22~~ ²¹ 1, wherein the docking member is detachably coupled to the guidewire.

~~10~~ ~~30~~ 31. (New) The distal protection device in accordance with claim ~~22~~ ²¹ 1, wherein the docking member further comprises a channel.

~~11~~ ~~31~~ 32. (New) The distal protection device in accordance with claim ~~31~~ ³⁰ 10, wherein a portion of the filter may be disposed within the channel.

~~32~~ ~~33~~ 33. (New) The distal protection device in accordance with claim 32, wherein at least a portion of the tapered member is disposed within the sheath.

~~33~~ 34. (New) A distal protection device, comprising:

- a sheath;
- a guidewire, wherein at least a portion of the guidewire passes through the sheath;
- a filter having a plurality of openings;
- a tapered frame coupled to the filter, the frame including a mouth;
- a rib having a first end and a second end;
- wherein the first end is coupled to the guidewire and the second end is coupled to the mouth; and
- a tapered member coupled to the guidewire.

~~34~~ 14
35. (New) The distal protection device in accordance with claim ~~34~~ 33 13, wherein the mouth is adapted to operate between an expanded profile and a collapsible profile.

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36. (New) The distal protection device in accordance with claim ~~35~~ 34 14, wherein the mouth is biased to be in the expanded profile.

~~37~~ 16
37. (New) The distal protection device in accordance with claim ~~34~~ 33 13, wherein the docking member is tapered.

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38. (New) The distal protection device in accordance with claim ~~34~~ 33 13, wherein the docking member is rigidly coupled to the guidewire.

18
~~38~~ 39. (New) The distal protection device in accordance with claim ~~34~~ 33 13, wherein the docking member is detachably coupled to the guidewire.

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~~39~~ 40. (New) The distal protection device in accordance with claim ~~34~~ 33 13, wherein the docking member further comprises a channel.

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41. (New) The distal protection device in accordance with claim ~~40~~ 39 15, wherein a portion of the filter may be disposed within the channel.

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42. (New) The distal protection device in accordance with claim ~~34~~ 33 13, wherein at least a portion of the docking member is disposed within the sheath.